

Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education Minutes

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**WAYNE TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT  
700 N. HIGH SCHOOL ROAD  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN  
OCTOBER 20, 2003  
10:00 a.m.**

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**A. Pursuant to IC 22-12-3-6, the regular scheduled meeting of the IN Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards & Education convened at 10:05 a.m. with Chairperson Paul Covington presiding.**

a. The following Board members were present:

M. Tracy Boatwright  
Bernice Clark  
Paul Covington  
Patrick Donoghue  
Charles (Don) Hall  
Thomas Hanify  
Patrick Ralston  
Darrick Scott

b. The following Board members were absent:

Jack Kerney  
Tom Loraine  
Jerry Nulliner

c. Also Present

Harold McCard, New Haven F.D.  
John Shafer, Greencastle F.D.  
Judge Bill Teegarden  
Diane Mack, C-TASC  
Ivan Nevil, PSTI Fire Administrator  
Jim Schneider, PSTI TO  
Randy Wood, PSTI TO  
Marilyn Burgess, PSTI Program Coordinator

**B. Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken with a quorum of eight.

**C. Minutes September 8, 2003; Statistical Report September, 2003**

Marshal Boatwright made one correction to the September minutes. The name of Inspector D'Nyeal Banks was misspelled. The correction was made. Don Hall made a motion to accept the September Minutes and September statistical report as printed and distributed. Director Ralston seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

**D. Variances, Hearings and Appeals**

a. **Kevin Nicholson**, a member of the Fishers Fire Department requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-11 Fire Officer IV. In his letter he has outlined what he considers to be courses of comparable objectives that are outlined in the NFPA 1021 Standard. He has completed his Fire Officer III requirements through Ivy Tech and is in his second year of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program.

Director Ralston made a motion to approve the variance 655 IAC 1-2.1-11 FO III. Patrick Donoghue seconded the motion. The members of the Board were opposed to granting the variance on the documentation that was received. The variance was denied.

b. **Robert Sears**, a member of the Bloomington Fire Department requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 Fire Officer III based upon having completed and receiving an Associates Degree from Ivy Tech College in Applied Science Public Safety.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 FO III on staff recommendation. Patrick Donoghue seconded the motion. Motion carried.

c. **Phillip Roser**, a member of the Indiana National Guard Fire Department requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 Fire Officer III based upon having completed and receiving an Associate degree in Applied Fire Science from the Community College of the Air Force.

Paul Covington explained to the Board members that the Air Force Fire Science Degree does not meet the requirements for Fire Officer III. Patrick Donoghue made a motion to deny the request for variance 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 FO III. Darrick Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**E. Report by Patrick R. Ralston, Executive Director, SEMA/DFBS/PSTI.**

This week a series of meetings for First Responders were started throughout the state of Indiana. These meetings will develop strategic plans, which have to be submitted to the Department of Homeland Security for the state of Indiana by the end of the year. There will be six meetings held throughout the state. The first meeting will be held today in Evansville.

On October 18 and 19, the Emergency Managers Alliance had their conference along with the LEPC. The attendance was very good. The U.S. Attorney attended along with some very interesting speakers.

With respect to legislation Director Ralston has been working with several offices for the Association of Counties to develop a plan for professionalizing the Emergency Management System in the state of Indiana.

Director Ralston and Marshal Boatwright are working with the Governor's office, Mel Carraway and several others on the potential for a Homeland Security Academy facility, which would include fire. There was a study done by BFFPS&E with the Interact Group which shows tremendous support for a fire service academy facility. Several potential

sites are being looked at including the Grissom AFB site. This is very preliminary right now, but there is great interest in this facility.

#### **F. State Fire Marshal Report M. Tracy Boatwright**

Fire Prevention week went very well. Marshal Boatwright attended Kokomo's Fallen Firefighter Ceremony. Also Lafayette had hundreds of school children who came for their Fire Prevention Program. There was also a program at 7 o'clock for the public on Wednesday evening.

A background check is being done on a person applying for the Arson Investigator position in NW Indiana. There is now an Arson Investigator position open for SW Indiana. Matt Bennett resigned the position recently.

Marshal Boatwright has been asked to serve on an Advisory Board for Washington Twp. Cadet program for juniors and seniors. The first Board meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. today.

A meeting of the Public Safety Evaluation Committee was held recently. A topic of discussion was the standardization of firefighting in the state of Indiana. Marshal Boatwright emphasized that the state of Indiana already has standardization for firefighting in Indiana. This committee is also looking at a Public Safety Academy or Fire Academy. The next meeting for this committee will be October 29, 10 a.m. in room 130 at the state house. Indoor pyrotechnics will also be discussed at this meeting.

#### **G. Public Safety Training Institute Report Ivan Nevil**

IFSAC has granted an extension to Public Safety Training for reaccreditation for IFSAC certification due to the repromulgation of the rules.

December 12 and 13 Ivan will be going to the National Fire Academy. They are in the process of establishing a National Credential System for firefighters and response personnel. This will control on-scene activities and will control who is inside the barrier. This system will list all of the training that the person has had. February, 2004 is the deadline for credentialing. There is a possibility of a federal government person being available in each state to help with this project.

In September and October there were two fire deaths due to heart attacks. Ivan worked with the departments on the insurance and various things that are needed at a time like this.

At the last Board meeting Ivan announced that he had been appointed Secretary for the North American Fire Training. Ivan announced that he resigned this position, because of his pending retirement from his position as Fire Administrator in the next year.

The staff is very busy with Haz Mat training. The terrorism grant money runs out December 31, 2003. Ivan will be looking at other avenues of revenue for this project.

Director Ralston thanked Ivan and his staff for the dedicated work that they do.

#### **H. Administrative Proceedings**

None at this time.

#### **I. Old Business**

a. **IFSAC** - Paul Covington - Paul attended the fall meeting for IFSAC in Little Rock. The spring meeting will be in Oklahoma City, 2004. Indianapolis is slated for the spring meeting in 2005.

b. **House Bill #1106** - Ivan Nevil - Ivan and Marshal Boatwright are checking prices for a video for the added requirement of training of operation of vehicle in response to an emergency.

c. **Discussion on Indiana certified Instructors teaching DOD courses for IFSAC certification while on active duty.** After some discussion that Paul Covington had with Master Sgt. Larry McDonald it was made clear that this practice is not something that DOD would favor. Ivan Nevil is going to keep in contact with DOD and refer any request for testing from these Instructors to Master Sgt. Larry McDonald and then to his replacement in January.

d. **Extension from IFSAC** - Ivan Nevil - Already discussed

e. **DOD reciprocity for Air Force Science Degree to Fire Officer III** - Paul Covington - Already discussed.

#### **J. New Business**

a. **Rules** - Discussion on new rule changes - Ivan Nevil. Each Board member was provided with a document with all of the proposed rule changes. After lengthy discussion and a few changes, it was decided that the rules are ready to go back to Mara for follow up.

#### **K. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.